

FROM GEN. GRANT'S ARMY.

Gen. Grant's Advance into Mississippi—The Onward March into Secession—Capture of a Notorious Southern Spy—Appearance of the Country along the Route—The Town of Holly Springs—Skirmishing with the Enemy—Arrival at Lumpkin's Mill—The Confederates Destroying Cotton—Designs of the Fox—A Eclipse Likely to occur at any time—A Genius National General, etc.

From Our Special Correspondent.

Last Wednesday, the 11th, Marshall Co., Miss., Saturday night, Nov. 29, 1862.

The Army of the Tennessee, Col. A. L. Lee of the 7th Kansas Cavalry in the advance, with a large body of well-drilled cavalry, left the encampments at and near La Grange yesterday morning, Gen. Hamilton's left wing having the precedence and Gen. Grant and his staff bringing up the rear.

The day was cloudy, chilly, and raw, threatening snow or rain; but the troops and trains got along very comfortably and without incident, encamping for the night about eighteen miles from La Grange. On the road several Rebel prisoners were taken. They had been sent out by Price, they said, to determine the whereabouts of our soldiers who had come upon them before they were well aware of our presence.

One of the prisoners named Webb assumed to be very tired of the Southern service, stated he had been conscribed, and was on the point of deserting. He seemed an ignorant, good-natured, unfortunate fellow, and elicited some commiseration from those who heard his story.

Lieut. Z. C. Bryan, however, suspecting Webb of more shrewdness than he revealed, disguised one of our scouts in a suit of butter-tint, and, putting him in the guard-house with W., told the sentinel that the last comer was a notorious spy, and ordered him to be shot if he should attempt to escape.

The scout pretended to be very much cast down, and declared if he had a knife he would try to cut his way out, knowing he would be shot at any rate. He telegraphed in this vein until he attracted the attention and interest of Webb, who finally unbuttoned himself and appeared in his true character—one of the most accomplished and daring spies in the Confederate service.

Webb had permitted himself to be taken, thinking he would be paroled, and then go to Price with full information of our strength and designs. In this he was foiled, and ought to meet with the fate of a spy.

Gen. Hamilton stopped one night at a large house, deserted by every body but two negroes. It was owned by a Mrs. Holland, whose husband was killed in the Mexican war, and whose three sons are in the Rebel army. The slaves left behind are either old and infirm or very young. They say they do not know where the white people have gone, but that they went away two or three weeks ago without giving any intimation of their intention.

Every house we saw on the road was deserted. The superstitious old-loyal residents of Mississippi had taken alarm and fled before our approach. The rail fences had been burned for miles, and the woods and leaves were frequently found on fire. The entire country looked desolate. The county (Marshall) is but thinly settled and sometimes we would not meet a living soul, black or white, during a march of two or three miles.

This morning we rose about 4 o'clock, the darkest hour of the morning at this season, and were off at day-light. The day proved beautiful, being clear, warm and Spring-like. The roads are dry and sandy, and therefore well adapted for marching. Indeed, we could not have had better weather. Still, as the troops are either raw or have been some time in camp, there is a great deal of straggling. No outrages, however, have been committed by them, as they have been closely watched by their officers.

When Col. Lee arrived at Holly Springs, last evening, he found a number of rebels cavalry in the town. So, dismounting his men, he made a charge on them, and after a few shots the enemy fled in confusion.

Seventy of the Rebels are said to have been wounded, but only one of our soldiers was hurt, having lost a finger by a musket ball.

When Gen. Hamilton arrived at the Springs all was quiet. The stores were closed, and the place looked deserted. A few of the citizens were in the public square, undemonstrative and silent, but with hearts, no doubt, rankling with hate against the "invading Yankees." The dwellings, some of which make pretensions to elegance, bore the semblance of family vaults, hardly a human figure being visible in or about them, save the blacks, who looked pleased at our coming, and took no pains to conceal their pleasure.

Holly Springs, as you know, is the capital of Marshall county, and rather attractive for a Southern town. It has, or had, at one time, a population of six or seven thousand souls. It contains some well-looking houses, a feminine seminary or two, several churches, and a spacious brick hotel, called the Magnolia House, used for some time past by the Confederates' as a hospital and a barracks. Consequently its interior is very dirty and dilapidated, and decidedly unattractive.

There were over any loyal citizens in Holly Springs, no one is aware of it, though the few who are now visible assume, of course, to be in favor of the Union. They would, I presume, poison or stab the odious Yankees without hesitation, if they had an opportunity to do so with impunity.

Precious loyalty, this of Mississippi!—almost as absolute as that of South Carolina!

Three miles beyond the Springs, Col. Lee's advance had another skirmish with the enemy; but he soon drove off the latter with the 12-pound Parrott with which he had provided himself.

He had procured a cannon, and used it very indifferently in the little engagement just mentioned, but hurt no one with their actively-employed gun.

Arriving at Lumpkin's Mill, seven miles by the road from Holly Springs, Col. Lee, commanding the 7th Kansas, 2d Iowa, and 4th Illinois Cavalry, had a third skirmish with the foe, who fired grape and canister at us from the adjacent hills—a mile distant—but did no damage. We returned the fire with our artillery, and the enemy left, retreating in the gathering shades of the evening. JESUS.

CAMP NEAR LUMPKIN'S MILL.

Sunday Evening, Nov. 30.

Gen. Hamilton encamped here last night, the trains being much behind, and continuing to come in until daylight.

After the Rebels left the surrounding hills, we observed smoke rising all along the road, and knew it must be from the burning cotton fields, which they had set on fire in the immediate vicinity. Between La Grange and here we saw many extensive cotton fields unbroken; the sudden exodus of the negroes had doubtless prevented their masters from gathering the yield.

This (Marshall) is one of the richest cotton counties in the State, I believe; but it was mostly sowed with corn last season for the subsistence of the Confederates. There must have been an immense crop this year; for we have no difficulty in obtaining forage here, on the very ground where an immense encampment of the Rebels must very recently have stood. From appearances not less than thirty-five or forty thousand of them were here at one time.

We are near the Mississippi Central Railway, visible from our camp, and, hanging by a heavy smoke to the south-west of us, very tall smoke-mounds, we are inclined to believe the enemy had set on fire a bridge crossing a stream emptying into the Tallahatchie.

At present writing, Col. Lee's advance is said to be within three or four miles of Alabeville, the point at which the rebels are reported to have entrenched themselves.

A reconnaissance in force was sent out this morning by Gen. Hamilton in the direction of the Tallahatchie. Between the hours of nine o'clock and noon we heard considerable commotioning which we presume to be our forces shelling the woods as they move forward.

No trustworthy map of the Mississippi is to be had, and our forces are so thoroughly acquainted with the country hereabout, and we ignorant of it, we will do our best to move slowly henceforth.

From the present onward we look for encounters skirmishing with the enemy, whose purpose will be, I apprehend, to draw us into some locality very advantageous for him, and there give us battle. If at all this side of Grenada.

My opinion is, that Pemberton, Price and Van

Dorn will effect a general engagement this side of

FROM MAJOR-GEN. ROSECRANS'S DEPARTMENT.

The New Policy—Parole Bond and Protection—Public Opinion—Proclamation by Gen. Rosecrans—Wretchedness in Nashville—Poverty and Famine—The Cup of Rebellion—Rev. Elliot, Rev. Schenck, and other Abominable People From the Front.

From Our Special Correspondent.

NASHVILLE, Tenn., Dec. 3, 1862.

I have been accustomed to the caption "Army of the Ohio" to designate the 14th Army Corps. It is official, yet it seems a misnomer. It does not convey the impression of fact. So I adopt a new heading, that the minds of readers may comprehend when the eye reads. Thus you have "Gen. Rosecrans's Department."

A great number of soldiers were before Gen. Hennilton this morning, charged with straggling. They were nearly all found guilty, and each of them so found sentenced to have \$10 deducted from his pay-roll.

Straggling is a most serious evil in the army, and the intention is to do away with it as far as possible.

Still, there are many of our soldiers who are really ill and exhausted, and who can hardly avoid straggling.

An instance of straggling I heard yesterday, evincing the noble conduct of a General that certainly deserves mention and commendation. While on the march from Holly Springs, Gen. Ross observed a young and delicate soldier, belonging to an Ohio regiment, lagging behind, and asked him if he were tired. "Yes, indeed, General, I would like to keep up, but I am very, very tired." The fatigued expression of his face gave proof of his sincerity, and the General, without further questioning, said: "Here, my good fellow, give me your musket, and ride my horse."

The poor boy-soldier hesitated; but Gen. Ross dismounted, and compelled him to get into the saddle, and, taking his gun, carried it several miles.

Gen. Ross may win bright laurels in the field; but I doubt if any achievement will shed more lustre on his name than that little act of humanity which proves him a gentleman in a true trust and highest sense. And that term combines the best attributes of both sexes, and that character furnishes a bright example for Princes and for Kings.

Gen. Grant remained last night at Holly-Springs, and was still there this morning.

The Right Wing under command of Gen. McPherson is here, and Wm. and Hamilton are on the alert to ready for a battle, which may be fought at any time, or may be deferred for a week or more.

The future just now is very uncertain; while we hope for the best, we are prepared for the worst. The Rebels are probably retreating; but every one wishes they would advance and give us an opportunity to fight the great battle of the South-West.

JUNIUS.

Evacuation by the Enemy of his Fortifications North of the Tallahatchie—Character of the Rebel Entrenchments—Sterling Price's Fear of being Flanked—The Confederates' Retreating Southward—Our Commanders Talk of "Bragging" the Fee—Conference of Grant with Generals Hamilton and McPherson—The Campaign to be Presented with Vigor—Southern Stories about Port Hudson, &c.

From Our Special Correspondent.

ANOTHER INVASION, IN THE FRONT. CAMP TWO MILES NORTH OF THE TALLAHHETIE.

RIVER MARSHALL CO., Miss., Monday Eve., Dec. 1, 1862.

The Rebels were driven back yesterday, as I have stated, by our advance, until they took refuge in their entrenchments, where they remained all night; our forces returning to, and encamping in, a position three miles from the river in order to obtain forage, which is not to be had along the Tallahatchie.

During the night our pickets thought they perceived signs of evacuation by the enemy, and this morning discovered they had removed a number of their guns. Before noon, the pieces were all taken from the embrasures, and never inspection proved that only a body of cavalry had been left within the fortifications. These departed when Col. Lee sent forward six or seven companies of the 7th Kansas, and at present writing the "Confederates" have to a man retreated Southward, and we hold the entire region of country this side of the Tallahatchie.

The fortifications of the foe were not very strong, but they could have resisted an advance for some time if they had been properly managed. It was not part of our programme to drive the Rebels from the Tallahatchie in any haste. We were quite willing they should remain there for a few days, if they were so inclined, hoping to have an opportunity to catch them.

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agony of want. It is a horrid picture to contemplate. The Commander of this Department seeing it more in the prospect of bleak Winter than in the present—because the present is so disastrous—feels to the plea of humanity, and with a heart sensitive to misery of helpless women and children—enemies whom they are—feels it is the duty of manhood to mitigate such woes to the last extent consistent with duty to his Government.

Why, what is the truth? War destroys industry.

Wealth is consumed. Industry